

**Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (New) A method for initiating a witness audit comprising:

periodically receiving input specifying a query to a central database storing information representing a plurality of available audits, each of the queries based on requirements of the witness audit including at least one of time period, SIC code and accreditation type;

for each of the queries, providing a list of the available audits responsive to the query;

displaying one or more scheduled dates for a selected audit;

receiving input representing a confirmation of the one or more scheduled dates for the selected audit; and

storing the confirmation in a corresponding field of the central database.

17. (New) A system for initiating a witness audit comprising:

one or more computers configured to

periodically receive input specifying a query to a central database storing information representing a plurality of available audits, each of the queries based on requirements of the witness audit including at least one of time period, SIC code and accreditation type;

for each of the queries, provide a list of the available audits responsive to the query;

display one or more scheduled dates for a selected audit;

receive input representing a confirmation of the one or more scheduled dates for the selected audit; and

store the confirmation in a corresponding field of the central database.